



necessary, to the torque specifications listed in **Table 2**.

SHOCK ABSORBER

Removal/Installation

- 1. Place the vehicle on level ground and set the parking brake.
- 2. Place wood block(s) under the skid plate to support the vehicle securely with the rear wheels off of the ground.

CAUTION

See the CAUTION at the beginning of this chapter relating to the use of selflocking nuts.

- 3. Remove the bolt and nut (**Figure 37**) securing the shock absorber to the rear axle housing. *Discard* the nut, it cannot be reused.
- 4. Remove the bolt and nut (**Figure 38**) securing the upper portion of the shock absorber to the frame. *Discard* the nut, it cannot be reused.
- 5. Move the shock absorber assembly down and out of the frame.
- 6. Install by reversing these removal steps while noting the following:
 - a. Apply a coat of molybdenum disulfide grease to the upper and lower mounting areas on the frame and the rear axle housing.
 - b. Install *new* self-locking nuts at the upper and lower mount.
 - c. Tighten the mounting bolts and nuts to the torque specification listed in **Table 2**.

Inspection

- 1. Inspect the rubber bushings in the upper (**Figure 39**) and lower joints (**Figure 40**). Replace if necessary.
- 2. Inspect the spring guide (**Figure 41**). Replace if it is worn or damaged.

Disassembly/Assembly

Refer to Figure 42 for this procedure.

The shock is spring-controlled and hydraulically damped. The shock damper unit is sealed and cannot

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be serviced. Service is limited to removal and replacement of the damper unit and the spring.

A special tool and additional items are needed for disassembly and assembly of the shock absorber. These tools are available from a Honda dealer and are as follows:

- a. Shock absorber compressor (Honda part No. 07959-3290001).
- Replacement kit (Honda part No. 07959-MB10000).

WARNING

Without the proper tool, this procedure can be dangerous. The spring can fly loose, causing injury. For a nominal bench fee, a dealer can do the job for you.

- 1. Install the base onto the spring compressor.
- 2. Install the shock absorber into a compression tool as shown in **Figure 43**.
- 3. Install the replacement kit onto the upper portion the shock absorber spring and the spring compressor. Tighten the clamp securing the kit.
- 4. Compress the shock spring just enough to gain access to the spring seat and slide the spring seal out.
- 5. Release the spring tension and remove the shock from the compression tool.
- 6. Remove the spring guide and spring from the damper unit.
- 7. Measure the spring free length (**Figure 44**). The spring must be replaced if it has sagged to the service limit listed in **Table 1** or less.
- 8. Check the damper unit for leakage and make sure the damper rod is straight.

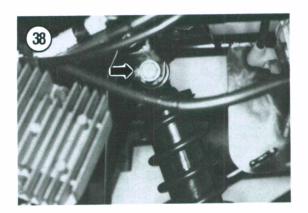
NOTE

The damper unit cannot be rebuilt; it must be replaced as a unit.

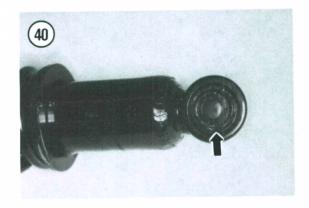
- 9. Assembly is the reverse of these disassembly steps. Note the following:
 - a. Install the spring with the closer wound coils toward the top.
 - b. Make sure the spring seat is correctly located in the top of the spring.

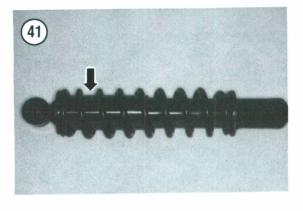
SWING ARM

In time, the pivot bearings and the pivot bolt will wear and will have to be replaced. The condition of the bearings can greatly affect handling performance









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